

1683

A

PROGNOSTICATION

For the Year of our Lord

God 1683

Containing the vulgar Notes for this present year, times when to marry a good Wife if you can light of her; a description of the three Eclipses of this year, two of the Moon, and one of the Sun, when they happen, and what is signified by them; a more accurate account of the four quarters of the year, than hath hitherto been given; a very useful Scheme, Astrologically and poetically describing and prognosticating many weighty matters; a description of the twelve Signs of the Zodiack, and over what persons they have dominion; with several other things, which when you have read them over, you will know as well as I.

The one and twentieth Impression.

*This is the sum of our Prognostication;
Which we do spread abroad unto the Nation;
And for the truth thereof, we do avow,
(As Popes) of the Pope we cannot say;
For those who think themselves herein are bitten,
May blame their faults for what herein is written.*

Printed for the Company of Stationers, 1683.

Vulgar Notes for this present Year 1683. according to the Julian or English account.

The Golden Number	11
Cycle of the Sun	12
Dominical Letter	8
Roman Indiction	6
Epact	12
Number of Direction	18
Sundays after Epiphany	4
Septuagesima Sunday Feb.	4
Ashwednesday Feb.	21
Easter Day April	8
Rogation Sunday May	13
Ascension Day May	17
Whit Sunday May	27
Sundays after Trinity	25
Advent Sunday December	2

Times prohibiting Marriage.

Marriage comes in on the 13 of *January*, and by *Septuagesima* Sunday it is out again, until the Octaves of *Easter*, or day after *Low-Sunday*; at which time it comes in again, and goes no more out till *Rogation Sunday*; for *Rogation* or *oritur*; from whence it is forbidden again untill *Trinity Sunday*; from thence it is unforbidden till *Advent Sunday*, when it goes out, and comes not in again until *S. Hilary*, or 13 of *January* next following.

In thy choice of a Wife have a special care, for Women are

The best of Goods, or else the worst of Evils;

Glorious Angels, or else cursed Devils.

THE bright Planet *Venus* is our evening star from the beginning of the year to the 24 of *January*, from thence she becomes our Morning star to the 27 of *November*.

Poor Robin, 1683.

ber, and from thence an Evening Star to the end of the year.
*This with the other Stars are twinkling eyes,
That with disorder'd order gild the Skies.*

Of the Eclipses this present year, 1683.

THIS year produceth three Eclipses, one of the Sun, and two of the Moon; that of the Sun (if the air be clear) will be visible in our English Horizon, those of the Moon, let the air be how it will, yet will they not be seen in England. However, having three Eclipses, there will be ground work enough of them for Astrologers, thereby to calculate the fates of Kingdoms and Commonwealths; as also of several other things worthy a serious mans consideration, as when it is least dangerous for a Master to kiss his Maid for fear of being espied by her Mistress; whether it be best to do it behind a Door like *J. D.* or invite her to an Ale-house to eat Cakes and drink Ale like *R. H.* By them also may be predicted when honesty will come again in fashion; whether a young Wench's Maidenhead be within her or without her; and if within her, she be not without her Maidenhead; whether a blind Man can see best with Spectacles or without; if Pancakes may be eat lawfully on any other day than on *Shrove Monday* or *Shrove Tuesday*; whether my Lady may eat Butter with her Eggs, or have her Poffet turn'd with Lemon or Ale; whether a Lawyer with a safe Conscience may take double fees; and many other weighty matters fit for an Almanack-makers observation.

But to come to the purpose, and tell you when these Eclipses will happen; for if we do not that, it is to no more purpose to tell ye the number of them, than it is to think to find truth in a Bowd, or honesty in a Horse-courser; though such things are not impossible, but very rare.

The first then of these is a Solar Eclipse, or (to speak to the capacity of my Country Reader) an Eclipse of the Sun, which will happen on the 17 Day of January, about 13 minutes past three of the Clock in the afternoon. It is

In the eighth Degree of *Aquarius*, and if the Air be serene and clear, it may be seen with us in England; there will be about 9 Digits or parts of the *Sun* body obscured, say some of our *Ass-trologers*: *Argel* says, that there will be 10 parts and a half, or 10 Digits and 30 minutes of his body Eclipsed; now which of them says truest, for my own part I cannot tell, for as yet I am not thoroughly convinced of the difference betwixt an untruth and a lie.

Dr. Mathus the *Disgotian* *Stigmatist* in his treatise of the antiquity of *Shappardons* and *cureless* *Bavds*, says, that when such differences arise betwixt *Ass-trologers*, it signifies, that the price of *Sprats*, *Jerusalem* *Archieoaks*, and *Holland* *Cheese* will be very much encreased; the like division happened in the beginning of the *Rump* *Rebellion*, when the scarcity grew so great that the *Brethren* *Botchers*, and such poor zealous *Saints* as earn'd but five groats a Week under a stall, by singing *Psalms* and drawing up of holes, being they could not live of their vocation, were fain to leave it off, and turn *Teachers* and *Prophets*.

But to proceed, the second Eclipse will be of the Moon, and happens on the first day of *February* about three of the Clock in the afternoon; but it being then an hour and 44 Minutes before the setting of the *Sun*, the relucency of that *Superiour* *Planet*, will cause that the defect of the Moon cannot be seen in our *English* *Horizon*. This Eclipse is celebrated in the twenty third degree of *Leo*, or the *Lion*, a martial warlike sign, and may produce some drunken brawls and quarrels in those Inns and Alehouses who have the signs of the white or red *Lion*.

This being a feminine Eclipse, shall have great influence over womens tongues, inso much that some Women shall have more and stranger tongues than ever *Babel* had to tell its ruins; viz, a lying tongue, a lipping tongue, a long tongue, a lawless tongue, a loud tongue, and a liquorish tongue, but never a true one. *Jupiter* domineers in the tenth house, this will cause great ambition, some men shall be ambitious to get them handsome Wives, and those Wives shall be ambitious to make their Husbands Cuckolds.

olds. This ambition shall also be predominant in vulgar and inferiour spirits, like *Herostatus* who to get himself a name, burnt with wild-fire the famous Temple of *Diana* at *Ephesus*, accounted one of the seven wonders of the World. Nay, I knew one so desirous of this ridiculous fame, that he caused his name to be inscribed on a small-Bear Pitcher, which caused my Mule, to correct this idle folly of his, thus to express her self:

*How greedy some men are of idle fame,
That they on Pitchers will inscribe their name,
As if the Hangman should ambitious be,
That he is Headsman of his faculty;
Vintners, their names on Wine-pots do appear,
But his ambition only was small Beer;
Such as your Plough-boys use, when in that case
They to their Teams do whistle Chevy-chase;
Alas, poor fool, 'twill do thee greater fame,
In Ballad-rhyme to eternise thy name.*

The third and last of this years Eclipses, will be like-wise of the Moon, and will happen on the 28 day of *July*, about eight of the clock in the forenoon, in the 14 degree of *Aquarius*. Now this Eclipse cannot possibly be seen of us in *England*, because at that time the earth interposeth betwixt the body of the Sun and her, and the earth not being so transparent as Crystal, you cannot see thorough it, although you have on your nose a pair of Spectacles.

Now to give you my Ass-trological judgment on this Eclipse, it portends a great deluge and inundation of Knavery, new inventions and stratagems for the further exaltation of Legerdemaine in cheating, and that to such a high pitch of perfection, that were *Mall Gurnsey*, alias *Mrs. Frith* alive, she would be quite put down in her own art, as a Bucket is put down a Well, or a School-boy puts down his Horse when he is about to be whipt. These kind of fellows

*Do live as merry as the days are long,
In scorn of Tyburn, or the Ropes ding dong;*

But often times it is their bay to wear,
A riding knot an inch below their ear;
When as they come to take their last degree,
Newgate their Hall, and made at Tyburn free.

Venus is in her exaltation, this Prognosticarea great lasciviousness, dancing naked. (let some people beware, I do not put down their names in my next years Almanack) some shall be very forward to kiss other mens Wives in private, that their own Wives may not see them; and their Wives shall be as forward to kiss other men, so that it be not in sight of their husbands; this indeed is a good way to avoid jealousy, but in my opinion far better is the custom used in West friezland, of which Mr. Moryson in his Itinerary or Book of Travels, thus writes.

I remember (saith he) that having been at Sea in a great storm of wind, thunder, and lightning, about the month of November, being very weary and sad; I landed at Dokkam in West friezland, where at that time some young Gentlemen of that Country, passing thorough that City towards Groning, according to the fashion of those parts, we did eat at an ordinary Table, and after supper sat down by the fire, drinking one to the other; where after our storm at Sea, the custome of Friezland did somewhat recreate us: For if a Woman drink to a Man the custome is, that she must bring him the cup, and kiss him, he not moving his feet nor scarcely his head to meet her; and Men drinking to them are tyed to the like by custome. A stranger would at first sight marvel at this custome, and more especially that their very Husbands should take it for a disgrace, and be apt to quarrel with a Man for omitting of this ceremony towards their Wives, yet they interpret this omission as if they judged their Wives to be so foul or infamous, or at least base: as they thought them unworthy of that courtesie. This custome is like to our drinking of a Health with a Gun amongst us in England.

In this year also there will happen in the Months of January and May, two eminent Conjunctions of Saturn and Jupiter, the two superiour Planets in the fiery sign Leo, and these are the Conjunctions of Heaven; but we shall

shall have more malevolent Conjunctions on Earth; as
When an Extortioner and a Broker are in Conjunction to
cheat men of their Estates, the one hunts for the prey,
the other scises it, and both devour it. In respect of these
our Country cheats are nothing comparable; He who in
the Country commences Doctor in Knavery, is in the
City but a Freshman or Sophister.

Craft there, may here again be set to School,

A Country knave oft proves a City fool.

Two more very eminent Conjunctions will operate this
year, viz. a Conjunction betwixt Rogues and Whores,
and a Conjunction betwixt Cut purses and Pick-pockets,
this will produce great profit to Chirurgeons, as as also
to Jack Ketch the Squire of the Hempen noose,

Who by his art will give them such a check,

They shall be hanged all but head and neck.

*Of the four Quarters of the Year, and first of the
Spring*

The Spring Quarter beginneth always on the 10 Day
of March, though many times you may feel Winter
still at your fingers ends, when the frost and snow putteth
you in mind to make use of your Gloves; yet however As-
trologers will have it to begin then, because at that time
the Sun entereth into the first point of Aries, making the
Days and Nights equal, twelve hours wherein to work,
and twelve hours to lye a Bed in.

In this Quarter if you walk abroad the Fields, you
may hear both the Nightingal and the Cuckow sing; and
if you be a married man, you may judge which of them
is the pleasantest musick. In this quarter also will be a
great cry about London streets of Mackeril, and they are
very good victuals if they be well butter'd. Veal and
Lamb will be now in season, and men shall be much
addicted to the drinking of Coffee, otherwise called by
the name of *Ninny brash*, sold at the *Turky head* in *Pish-
por-lane*; where also is sold divers other liquors, viz. *Tea*
and *Aromatick* for the sweet tooth'd Gentlemen; Be-

ten) and *Rosale* for the single-headed *Catfish*, Back-re-
 cruiting *Chub* for the Consumptive *Gullant*, *Herb* &
shire Redstreak made of rotten Apples at the *Three-*
Eraner, true *Branswick* *Milk* brew'd at *Saint Katherine*,
 and Ale in penny Mugs not so big as a Taylors chimble.

This is the most pleasant Quarter of all the four, both
 for the temperateness of the Weather, the wholesome-
 ness of the Air, and the delightfulness of the Fields.
 In it the aged feel a kind of youth, and youth the spirit
 full of life: The Beggars do now begin their perambula-
 tion, invited thereunto by the Musick of the woody
 Choristers; and the Merchant setteth forth on long voy-
 ages, to bring home Commodities from remote Countrys:

Crossing the torrid and the frozen Zone,
To bring commodities to England home:
Midst Rocks and swallowing Gulphs their way is made,
For to enrich themselves by gainful Trade.

Summer.

Summer, the second Quarter of the year, beginneth on
 the 1st Day of June, and comes after the Spring, as
 green Pease come after Mackarel, or a great Belly after
 Marriage. This Quarter is so hot that it makes the Coun-
 try man leave of his Jerkin, and young men and maids
 sweat at making of Hay: the fat Consciences of divers
 men shall be melted away into nothing: nor shall the
 Watermen need to fear the *Thames* being frozen over all
 this Quarter. The fleas and flies shall be very numerous,
 and Gulls and Woodcocks shall swarm about the streets
 thicker than Butterflies at Christmas.

This Quarter will be very hot, which will cause peo-
 ple to be very thirsty, so that there shall be great em-
 ployment for *Noggins*, *Whiskins*, *Piggins*, *Grinzies*,
Tankards, and *Cans* from a Pottle to a Pint, from a Pint to
 a Gill: also of *Black Jacks* and *Bombards* much used at
 Court, which when the French men first saw, they report-
 ed at their return into their Country, That the English men
 drank out of their Boats. But let me advise thee this Quar-
 ter to have a special care of two things, excessive Drink-
 ing, and extreme Wenching,

Deat

Do not urther upon Women, nor on Wine,
 For to thy hurt they both alike incline:
 Venus thy strength, and Bacchus with his sweets
 And pleasant Grapes debilitates thy feet:
 Blind love will blabb what he in secret did,
 In giddy wine there's nothing can be hid;
 When thou with both, or either art possess,
 Shame, Honesty, and Fear, all fly thy breast:
 In Fetters Venus keep, Gives Bacchus to be,
 Lest by their free gifts thou beest dammish'd.
 Use Wine for this, Venus for lawfull seed,
 To pass those limits, may thy danger breed.

This Quarter continues from the 11th of June, all hot
 July and fruitful August, till the 12th of September, when
 the Days and Nights will be again of equal length.

Autumn.

Autumn, which by some learned Antiquaries is de-
 rived from Apple time, is the third Quarter of
 the Year, and beginneth on the 12 Day of September,
 the Sun then entering the Equinoctial Sign *Libra*; and
 now the Days grow shorter than the Nights, and the wea-
 ther cooler than before, therefore now the Body is in a
 fit temper for a glass of good wine, be it either Red White,
 Claret, Grapes, High-Country, Malligo, Charnia, Sherry,
 Canary, Palermo, Frontiniack, Peeter-see-mea, Vine de Liba-
 dania, Bastard, Raspi, Tent, Alligant, Melnisee, Muscadine,
 Rbenish or Backrag: Or if it be Wine of the Vintners
 own making, as Ippocras White or Red, Boxt Alligant with
 Sugar and Eggs, Stitch-broth brew'd with Rosewater,
 Sugar, Burn'd Sack, Mull'd Wine, Tomblon, Balderdash,
 any of these may serve a single person, and all of them
 content a great Company.

As for the temper of this Quarter, it is like to be as
 were Autumn in former years; Nightingale shall sing,
 Cocks crow, Kine lowe, Sheep bleate, Sparrows chirp,
 and Dogs bark as they used to do: If there be store of
 Apples growing, there will be great probability of much
 Cider to be made; and plenty of Nuts prognosticates
 plenty

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plenty of Bastards, occasioned by young Men and Lasses
meeting in the Woods to gather them.

*For there is few what ere they be,
But yield to opportunity.*

With the end of this Quarter endeth the Pride of Summer, the Earth instead of a Mantle of Green, then putting on a Vest of Snow,

*The Fields are now bereaved of their splendor,
Which lately were as brave as Owen Glendur*

A Prince of Wales, his Country's Defender;

Who of their Priviledges was so tender,

That he his valour thereunto would tender,

And of his Countries freedom be a mender,

But was overthrown, and so became its ender.

This Quarter continues to the 11 of December, and then comes in cold shivering Winter, which makes men of all persuasions to turn Quakers. Of this third Quarter of the Year thus writes the Poet:

The Evening of the Year, when the threst sheaf

Loseth its grain, and every Tree its leaf;

The Choristers o'th Wood do cease their Notes

And stately Forrests don their yellow coats.

Winter

Winter the last and worst Quarter of all the four, because it consumes what was gotten in the former three; begins December the 11. the Sun then entering into Capricorn, making the shortest day to all on this side the Æquator, and to by consequence the longest Night. Should we now prognosticate hot soultry Weather, we might chance to be far out in our Prognostications as was the Quaker when his Wife took him kissing his Maid, she having on her Dames Wastcoat, which made the Quaker thus to excuse himself to his Wife, that he was mistaken, *For that Hagar had gotten on Sarahs rayment*; but on the contrary, should we predict Frost, Snow, Hail, and cold weather, it would be as fit for the season as a Pancake for Shrove-tuesday, a Tansy for Easter, a Morris for May-day, a mine'd Bye for Christmas, a Candle for the Candlestick, a Nail for

for the hole. or a Nuns lips for a Fryers mouth.

*Now frost doth cast an icie beam
Upon the Lakes and Cryſtal ſtream,
And every honey-headed twig
Wears his Snowy Periwig.*

Now men drink Ale by the fires ſide, which ſhall make them have all the Coat colours of a Drunkard, viz. ſanguine, purple, crimſon, copper, and carnation in their countenances: but this will coſt money, of which if they be without, they muſt (if they can) borrow money of a pawn of wax and parchment,

*But of few men you now can coin command,
Unleſs it be upon a tye of land.*

Four ſorts of Knaves ſhall be much employed this Quarter, viz. the Knave of Hearts; the Knave of Spades the Knave of Clubs, and the Knave of Diamonds; and a great many cheating Knaves ſhall be employed in the uſing of them; but there are Knaves of all ſorts, as there are Jades of all colours; and he that riſes betimes and walks London Streets a whole Day, 'tis a thouſand pound to a Nut-shell but he may chance to meet with one of them.

*For though the Country be not wholly free,
Yet there's no doubt ſome Knaves i'th' City be.*

This cold comfortleſs Quarter laſts three Months viz. moſt part of ſnowy December, all cold January and dirty February, and ſome part of bluſtering March, during which time the Sun paſſes through the three Celeftial ſigns of Capricorn, Aquarius, and Piſces; or if you will, the Goat, the Tankard bearer and Fiſhes, and then enters into the Equinoctial Sign Aries.

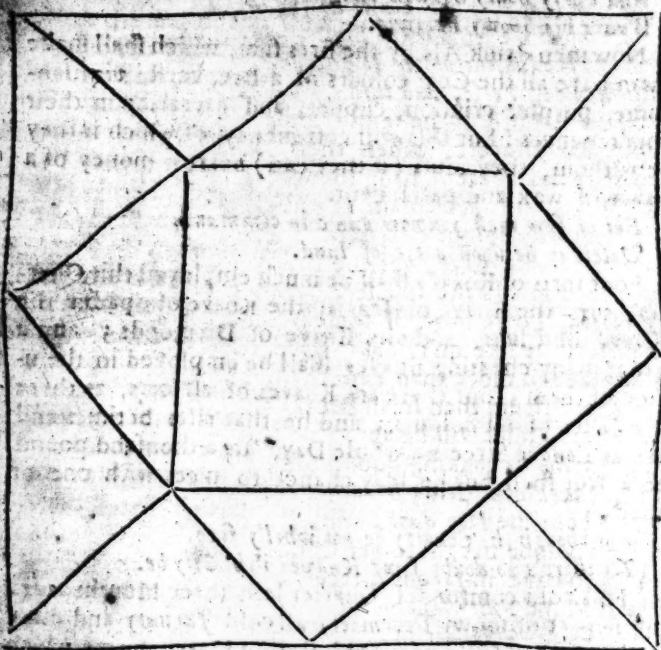
*That pleaſant time of year when balmy ſhowers,
Deck the ſoft breſt of fragrant Meads with Flowers.*

ENdymion that had Luna 'bout the middle,
Could none of all her myſteries unriddle;
Like to this Scheme, wherein you may behold
Such things as were by any other told;

And

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*The Astrological Jim-crack or fortune-telling
Schema.*



And though some say, that we may see as far
Into a nether Millstone as a Star,

Yet I'll maintain that all our Prophecies
Are either very true, (or arrant lies.)

Now though we write not with a beam of Noon,
Nor have no Letter from the man i'th Moon;
Yet I'll affirm that our intelligence

As true as theirs that say they haue't from thence.

Next though that I do here twelve houses name,
I nere had foot of land within the same;
And should I want a House to keep me dry,

For

*For all these twelve, In the streets might ye see
They in that case do stand in little need,
Yet each of them a house is o're our head;
'Tis true that they are houses in the Air,
And though we know their Signs, we can't come there:
But my predictions better to disclose,
I'll leave off Verse, and turn my Pen to Prose.*

Jupiter is Lord of the tenth House, this Prognosticates ill luck for Usurers, when their Debtors break, and they for grief thereof hang themselves. *Venus* is in her exaltations, this is as plain as the nose on a mans face that Beer will be but two pence a Flaggon; for though Malt should be dear, yet the Brewers have a knack to make it so much the smaller. *Mars* is sextile in the fiery Trigon, Lo ye now, if some Women be not proud I never saw the like on't. *Sol* is retrograde, good wits will be applauded more than rewarded, and Canary will be in higher esteem than small Beer. The *Moon* is in a Trine with *Venus*, Milk will be apt to be burnt to, to the great endangering of making good Posssets. *Mercury* is well posited, therefore drink Brandy and it will make you piss clear. About the Dog days *Saturn* is in opposition to *Venus*, when it will be naught to get Children, because they will be apt to have ill-favour'd faces, as the learned *Spencer* hath it in his *Fairy Queen*.

————— *Under ill disposed Skies,*

When sullen Saturn sits i'th house of obloquies.

Mars in the house of *Sagittarius* signifies a great year of fruit, that Apples will be plentifuller than Oranges. *Mercury* in *Leo* denotes the strangest things possible, but that there is no reason in Love; how that Duchesses of Wards shall marry their Cook-maids, Aldermens Widows match with their Turn-broaches, and great Ladies deal with their Horse-keepers. *Luna* in reception with *Taurus*: young Wenches Prayers shall be, that God would send them handsome, rich, lusty Husbands, fine Cloaths, good Victuals, strong Drink, long Sleeps, and no work. *Jupiter* dignified in the tenth house, denotes a great plenty of

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Naturals, Changelings, Pops, Bubbles, Wise acres, Coddle-brains, Shuttle-skulls, Paper-skulls, Hall wits, Simpletons, Ninnihammers, &c. Fasting shall be much used where people have no Vituals. Mars is in opposition to Mercury, this will cause many oppositions on Earth, Quakers in opposition to Church-Government.

The twelve Signs of the Zodiac.

Aries the Ram which bore the Golden Fleece,
That Jason brought from Colchos unto Greece;
The Sun being in the Ram makes it out clear
At the Ram in Smithfield you may have good Beer.
The **Ram** hath Dominion over Butchers, Jan-
ners, Husmen, Sow gelders, Ink-horn-makers, Lan-
tern-makers, Horn-book makers, and all those people
who deal in Horns.

Taurus the Bull, a Bull of high renown,
Whose Hide might make a good Aldermans Gown,
And if they think the Hide will be too small,
They let them take both Hide and H O R N S and all.
Under **Taurus** of the Bull are born all your Cuckolds,
Wittels, Henpeckt-fellows, and Knights of the Forked
Order.

Gemini doth appear to all beholders,
To have Dominion o're the Arms and Shoulders;
A very loving couple sure they be,
As Man and Wife when they in Bed agree.
Gemini or the Twins bear rule over all couples, as
Man and Wife, the Carter and his Whip, the Taylor and
his Thimble, the Currier and the Hangman, the Thief
and the receiver, the Drunkard and the black Pot, &c.

The Crab or crabbed woman does bear sway,
Such wives as will their Husbands not obey;
For such crabbed robs my counsel is,
A Crab-tree Cudgel will not be amiss.

Cancer